own provisions that a new constitution was contemplated, and the people of the new territories and the territories themselves were to be subjected generally to the legislation of this new

government under the terms of the compact.

And now he would answer the inquiry put to him by the gentleman from Pennsylvania, who asked him if he knew gentleman from Pennsylvania, who asked him if he knew what Mr. Madison said on this subject. Mr. Madison said it was true that the ordinance was passed with doubtful authority, but he went on afterwards to justify the passage of that ordinance. Mr. Madison said:

Mr. McLANE said he never admitted it was a compact, then or now.

Mr. Murphy said it was declared by the ordinance itself or Mr. Murphy said it was declared by the ordinance itself.

interest, the necessity of the case, in posed upon them the task of overleaping their constitutional limits."

same as that of 1887, and who had not seen it if it were unconstitutional.

But he cared not whether that act was constitutionally made or not at the time; he said, and that was his position, that the constitution of 1787 confirmed that ordinance and made it valid. Now he had not seen, in the course of the debate on this question, the clause of the constitution of the United States referred to, to which he should direct the attention of Congress to legistrates on the constitution, and was affirmed by decisions of which he said:

"The title cared not whether that act was constitutionally made right to the cession from Georgia of those two Southern States which he had no claim to Oregon on the diminished by amalgamation. He knew, however, that there was high authority recommending that course for the extinction of the blacks in the free States.

One of the greatest men of New England recommended, find the power to govern followed as an incident; and this was no new deciring. It was laid down by Story, and by all the first power to govern the constitution, and was affirmed by decisions of which he said: the House. He did not put the power of congress late over the territories upon the clause authorizing Congress to make "all needful rules and regulations respecting the terto make "all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory of the United States;" to the thought with the gentleman from Virginia that the word "other" qualified the word "territory," and showed that it was spoken of here only as "property"—giving Congress the power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory had not a single attribute of sovereignty; the territory had not a single attribute of sovereignty; the territory had not a single attribute of sovereignty; the territory had not a single attribute of sovereignty;

sion in reference to slavery in both instruments was adopted on the same day—the provision in the constitution providing for the three-fifths representation of slaves, and the prohibition in the ordinance of slavery in the Northwest territory, and that after there had been the utmost contrariety of opinion in both both second in the considered an accidental coincidence.

He had said that this principle had been settled. It was sion in reference to slavery in both instruments was adopted Go that after there had been the utmost contrariety of opinion in both bodies—could it be considered an accidental coincidence? No, it was the result of conference; of consultation with each

But after the new constitution was adopted, which constitu-tion itself recognised this ordinance, as he would presently show, a law was passed in addition to carry into further effect the ordinance of 1787. He would ask gentlemen to tell him how this law came to be passed if they did not consider the law, the preamble of which recited that in order that the ordi-nance of 1787 "may continue to have full effect" it is requisite, &c.
Mr. GAYLE. Is that an act of Congress?

Mr. MURPHY replied that it was. This ordinance, then,

Mr. MURPHY replied that it was. This ordinance, then, was a compact, an engagement; a contract between the people of the United States, in their collective capacity, and the people who should inhabit this new territory; and this express acknowledgment of this compact by Coogress, after the adoption of the new constitution, as well as the recognition of it by the constitution, made it binding, ratified it, and cured it of any unconstitutionality under the confederation which it might previously have been obnoxious to. The clause of the constitution to which he referred was in these words: "All days extracted and consequences aftered into before the debts contracted and engagements entered into before the adoption of this constitution shall be as valid against the United States under this constitution as under the confe-

onstitution. These are his words:

"This ordinance was considered doubtful until the adoption of the present constitution, by the first clause of the sixth article of which it was supposed to be confirmed. But this confirmation shows it to be in the issure of compact, and not of a law—a compact voluntarily entered into by all the parties considered with it—not incorporated in the present constitution as a grant of power, or explanatory of its principles; but meredy sanctioned by a single clause, providing for the validity of contracts. It was a contract made by the party ecding the territory; it did not propose to affect the rights of persons residing there; it was to operate as a contract upon those who should subsequently remove thirther; such persons, therefore, went under this ordinance; they voluntarily became parties to it; and such only settled there as were willing to live without always, and subject to the terms of the compact."

"A sountry conquered by the British arms becomes a dominion of the King in the right of his crown, and, therefore, went under this ordinance; they voluntarily became parties to it; and such only settled there as were willing to live without always, and subject to the terms of the compact."

"A sountry conquered by the British arms becomes a dominion of the King in the right of his crown, and, therefore, went under this ordinance; they voluntarily became parties to it; and such only settled there as were willing to live without always, and subject to the terms of the compact."

"The second is, that the enequered inhabitants, once received the terms of the propose to the second of the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king's protection, become subjects, and are evived tider the king is the law. It was a contract

the ordinance was a compact, and that that compact was ratified and confirmed by the constitution. He had referred to the ordinance of 1787 to show that it was a compact, and had down the river—he felt great pity, not for the owner of the

ordinance. Mr. Madison said:

"I mean not, by any thing here said, to throw censure on the measures which have been pursued by Congress. I am sensible that they could not have done otherwise. The public the said it was declared by the ordinance itself to be compact; but he was going on, before this interruption, to consider the question relative to the territory which was now then the task. to be compact; but he was going on, before this interruption, visions of the ordinance of 1787 did not apply to that territory; he had gone on further to say that there were certain He thus approved the measure, as did Mr. Jefferson, who was the author of the ordinance of 1784, in this principle the same as that of 1787, and who would hardly have advocated it if it were unconstitutional.

the power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory as property of the United States.

He fell in, therefore, with the view of the gentleman from Virginia on this point; but it was not necessary to rely upon the clause in question.

But to his mind we had abundant confirmation of this ordibute the confirmation of the confirmation of the confirmation of this ordibute to be mind to be mind to be confirmation of the case, who was the confirmation of the case, who was the confirmation of the confirma But to his mind we had avandent construction of the constitution itself. Would a not have been remarkable, indeed, if the convention which framed the constitution, sitting at the same time and place of that Congress which adopted this ordinance, had not made some provision which adopted this ordinance, had not made some provision.

well known that the Supreme Court of the United States had again and again admitted the right of Congress to legislate for the territories under the clause of the constitution which authorized them to make "all needful rules and regulations," as that while they allowed the representation of three-fifths of the slaves, they prohibited slavery in the Northwest territory.

But after the past constitution was a constitution which authorized them to make "all needful rules and regulations," &c. He did not coincide with that view. But they had gone further: they had recognized the principle with the principle further; they had recognised the principle which he now asserted. Sustained by such authority, he thought he might assume this position with confidence. Chief Justice Marshall declared, in the case of the American Insurance Company et al. vs. Canter, that al. es. Canter, that-

this law came to be passed if they did not consider the ance in existence and valid? He read an extract of the the preamble of which recited that in order that the ordine of 1787 "may continue to have full effect" it is rea, &c.

GAYLE. Is that an act of Congress?

MURPHY replied that it was. This ordinance, then, compact, an engagement; a contract between the people

The principle was laid down by all our elementary writers—
Story, Rawle, and others—that the power to govern did not rest either in the people who inhabit the territories or in the several States in their separate capacities, or in the people of the States; for, if this was the case, it would not be exercised at all; but that it was a necessary incident to the right to

acquire.

He now came to his third proposition—that, until Congress "All passes new laws over acquired territory, the old municipal laws of the former Governments remain in force, subject only at the conference of the constitution; and every person settling there is subject to the old laws. He made this point in reference to New Mexi-

down the river-he felt great pity, not for the owner of the then gone on to say that, according to the argument of Mr. McLanz, of Delaware, if a compact, it was ratified and confirmed by the constitution. Mr. McL. said it was confirmed as a compect, not as a law. become adepts in vice and crime. Let him ask gentlemen who wished to carry slaves to the North, what would have

become of them if they had been transferred there?

It was a well-established fact that the number of free negroes were rapidly decreasing in many of the New England states, and simply because the free negroes are forced to be vicious. They are not allowed to associate with the whites.

They are driven from the employment of the whites. The
women become degraded, and the men theves. They cannot live in the free States and be perpetuated; and he ap-

which he said:

'It is not to be doubted but that the negroes in the North-"It is not to be doubted but that the negroes in the Norm-ern States also will in time mix with the common mass of the people. But we have this consolation, that, as they are so small a proportion of the inhabitants, when mixed with the rest they will not produce any very sensible diversity of

slaves in the South, and he would go for utacting laws of a most penal character against any who shall bring the wretch-

colored population of Boston, in 1830, appears in that report to have been 1,875; in 1845 it was 1,842. While the white colored population of Boston, in 1830, appears in that report to have been 1,875; in 1845 it was 1,842. While the white population has been increasing in that city the blacks have been decreasing. It appears from the same table that in 1742 the blacks were to the whites as eight to nicety-two. In 1845 Why, as he had shown, Mr. Slidell was instructed to offer it was as one and sixty-one hundredths to ninety-eight. And this was the most favorable location to make the comparison, for it was in cities that the blacks congregated. If we look at some of the New England States we find the decrease most

The falling of the Chairman's hammer, amounting the expiration of his allotted hour, prevented the empletion of the sentence, and the honorable gentleman resumed his seat.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1848. THE WAR-ITS COST-PRESIDENTIAL, &c.

THE WAR—ITS COST—PRESIDENTIAL, &c.

Mr. COCKE, who had the floor from yeserday, rose and said he was aware that the remarks which he proposed to make to the committee were not strictly in order, but they would not be inconsistent with custom; for it was usual, when the House was in Committee of the Whole or the state of the Union, for gentlemen to indulge in a wide latitude, in the discussion of any question that might be under consideration. This was his apology for the train of argument in which he should indulge this morning.

It was not his purpose to discuse at large the origin of the war with Mexico in which the country is engaged. He was fully sensible that he could not furnish to the committee any new views on that subject; for it had been thoroughly examined and ably discussed by others, and long ere this every member of this House and the people of the country had formed an opinion upon that great question. He should not, then, for it was unnecessary, detain the committee with a discussion of the origin, rise, and progress of the war with Mexico. His purpose was to discuss some other questions intitately connected with the policy which the present Administration had pursued during its term of service.

At an early period of this session an amendment was submitted to a resolution, by the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Asukux.) which declared "that this war was unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by the President of the United States," and for that amendment he gave his vote. He was then governed by the convictions of his best judgment and a sense of public duty; and, after mature consideration

Has a same protons, opposed in the same of the part of managed in the same of the same of

had told them that if these instructions were communicated they would give important information to the enemy. His language was as follows:

"It will be apparent that sound policy required, that while

negotiations for peace were pending, those instructions should not be made public, for it is well known that whatever is pub-lished in this House soon finds its way into Mexico, and if the importance the President attaches to the purchase of the bay of San Francisco should be made known to Mexico, it would

Now, although those instructions had not been commun cated to this House, they had somehow found their way into the newspapers, and the gentleman from Illinois had shown an intimate acquaintance with their contents. Their unofilan intimate acquaintance with their contents. Their unon-cial publication perhaps might attach to them some distrust, but had not the gentieman from Illinois, in daring, as a mem-ber of the President's party, to make such disclosures thus authoritatively, exposed himself to the charge of affording "aid and comfort to the enemy" However that might be, the disclosures had clearly shown that Mr. Slidell's mission the disclosures had clearly shown that Mr. Slidell's mission the disclosures had clearly shown that Mr. Slidell's mission

well, it was understood that a treaty had been ratified on the part of our Government, though he would not undertake to any their own race by vicious courses.

Well, it was understood that a treaty had been ratified on the part of our Government, though he would not undertake to say positively what were its terms, as they were not officially made known. Its provisions, nevertheless, were said to have crept into the newspapers, and, as he had not seen them contradicted, he presumed some reliance might be placed on them. They must not, however, forget that the President's object, from which he had proclaimed he would not while the denirs of the city council apointed to obtain the census of Boston for the year 1845, by Lemuel Shattuck, which gave some important information on this subject. The colored population of Boston, in 1830, appears in that report

Why, as he had shown, Mr. Slidell was instructed to offer twenty-five millions of dollars for certain acquisitions and a boundary, in the first instance; and our own Government, if reports were true, had agreed to pay upwards of twenty millions of dollars by a treaty which would secure to us the territory which Mr. Slidell was instructed to purchase for twenty-five millions. What, then, became of "indemnity for the past and security for the future?" Was nothing meant by that assertion of a determination on the part of the President; or was it merely used to hoodwink the people? How could the President escape from the charge of insincerity? What said the President, in his last annual message, on this subject, for he desired to give the President the benefit of his own statement? On page 8 he says:

"The doctrine of no territory is the doctrine of no indemnity; and, if sanctioned, would be a public acknowledgment that our country was wrong, and that the war declared by Congress with extraordinary unanimity was unjust, and should be abandoned; an admission unfounded in fact and degrading to the national character."

And again, on page 14, he says:

And again, on page 14, he says :

And again, on page 14, he says:

"In my annual message to Congress, in December last, I declared that 'the war has not been waged with a view to conquest; but, having been commenced by Mexico, it has been carried into the enemy's country, and will be vigorously prosecuted there, with a view to obtain an honorable peace, and thereby secure ample indemnity for the expenses of the war, as well as to our much-injured citizens, who hold large pecuniary demands against Mexico.' Such, in my judgment, continues to be our true policy; indeed, the only policy which will probably secure a permanent peace."

And, on page 14, he again says:

the continues of the co

ments of the friends of the present Executive would be at once overthrown and their lips would forever be sealed on this question. It was, therefore, the interest of that party not to communicate them. The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Tunner) had told them that if these instructions were communicated they would give important information to the enemy. His language was as follows:

Mr. COCKE. Yes, how many have stiently passed away, where deaths alks abroad like "destruction that was that noon-time day," who can tell? Of those discharged from the service for discassed on this way to their homes after their discharge no statement could be made. At least one-third had doubtless died of discasses contracted in the service, and the total sacrifice of of diseases contracted in the service, and the total sacrifice of lives in battle and by diseases could not fall short of fifteen thousand. And to all this add those mangled frames that have succeeded in reaching their homes, as melancholy mon-uments daily to remind us of the horrid carnage and destruc-tion and destation that were consequent on wars! They could not pass through the streets even now without meeting the remnants of men whose limbs had been torn from the

But look again at the disastrous effects of this war over whole country, and not alone on the brave soldiers who have fought our battles. - Behold the widows and orphans that have the disclosures had clearly shown that Mr. Slidell's mission was not so much to restore friendly relations between the two republics as to acquire New Mexico and California. It was apparent that he was sent out to promote another scheme of annexation which the President then had in contemplation. But, besides that scheme, what were Mr. Slidell's instructions? Why, to obtain the Rio Grande as the boundary, from its mouth to its source, including New Mexico, for which he was authorized to offer five millions of dollars. And for the acquisition of California, including Monterey, he was authorized to offer five millions of dollars; and, on the completion of either bargain, this Government would undertake to settle with our citizens who have claims for spoliations on Mexico.

Well, it was understood that a treaty had been ratified on the part of our Government, though he would not undertake

Dewy with Nature's tear drops
Grieving, if aught inanimate e'er grieves,
Over the unreturning brave."

To this whole country the President of the United Sta was answerable for britging on this calamitous war, and the people would hold him and the party that sustained him to a But to proceed: Will the treaty be ratified by both Gov

ernments who are partes to it? There were many who thought it would not be ratified; and why was it so? There ernments who are partes to it? There were many who thought it would not be ratified; and why was it so? There were reasons sufficient to justify the apprehension that it would not be ratified by Mexico. The course pursued by this Administration towards our generals in Mexico would doubtless have its influence in producing such a result. What had it done? Why, the negetiator of the treaty had been ordered under arrest and to be seat out of the country in the face of the enemy. And, in addition, the gallant Scott, who had been invincible in every hard fought field, and whose name filled the enemy with despair and despondency, had been stricken down in his glory, while the laurel wreath of victory encircled his brow, and in the face of the enemy he had been ordered home in apparent diagrace. And could it be supposed that this attempt to diagrace the old soldier would have no influence on Mexico? Strange, indeed, it would be if it had not. And why had this been done? Because he had dared to execute an old army order which had been revived by the War Department for a special purpose; that purpose being to insult and degrade another victorious soldier (Gen. Taylor) for writing a confidential letter to an old, intimate, and gallant friend—Gen. Gaines. For that Gen. Taylor was insultingly censured by the Secretary of War, and this old order was revived to punish him if he should again venture upon its violation. But, for executing that order, which he had been commanded to execute, Gen. Scott had been suspended from his command and ordered home. This Administration had a fearful account to render to the American people for such conduct.

In the course of some three or four days there would

Ralph J. Ingersoll, Minister to Russia.....31,500 Son of the Minister as Secretary of Legation. 4,000

Son of the Minister as Secretary of Legation. 4,000

Romulus M. Sanders, Minister to Spain. 40,500 00

George W. Hopkins, Charge to Portugal. 14,625 00

Andrew J. Donelson, Minister to Prussia. 49,500 00

John W. Davis, Commissioner to Chion. 6,000 00

Benjamin G. Shields, Charge to Venezuela. 18,000 00

Henry Hubbard, Subtreasurer at Boston. 6,500 00

Marcus Morton, Collector of the Customs, Boston. 25,600 00

Phiness Allen, reappointed Postmaster at Pittsfield, Massachusetts. 4,039 48

C. G. Greene, Public Printer, Boston, salary unknown.

R. Rantoul, jr., District Attorney for Massachusetts 16,000 00

Isaac H. Wright, appointed Navy Agent, and rejected by the Senate.

H. K. Smith, Pöstmaster at Buffalo, N. Y. 6,847 84

Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. District Attorney for the Southern District of New York. 24,000 00

John L. Dawson, U. S. District Attorney, for the Western District of Pennsylvana, salary unknown.

Daniel S. Bizer, Inspector of Customs, Baltimore. 4,038 00

Gabriel Holmes, District Attorney for North Carolina, salary unknown.

Salary unknown.

Wm. D. Morgan, Secretary of Legation to Brazil...8, 900 00
John S. Simonson, Captain of Dragoons...2,000 00
J. C. Sloo, Receiver at Shawnectown, Illinois.....4,000 00
William Walters, Public Printer, Springfield, Illi-

To be sure, Mr. Ritchie was not in the Convention, but he

conviction, a consciousness that if he were the nominee of the next convention at Philadelphia, a disastrous defeat awaited that party. Hence the old man fell upon his knees and exclaimed, "Would to Heaven he had never yielded to the solicitations of his countrymen" in reference to accepting the

The CHAIRMAN closed the debate in compliance with

SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS STOLEN .- A package of bank Six Thousand Dollars Stolen.—A package of bank bills on the Commercial Bank, Providence, was stolen from the steamer Bradford Durfee, on the passage from Providence to Fall River on Monday afternoon. The boat stopped at Bristol, and while there some person entered the captain's office, by means of false keys, and stole the package, \$6,000 in value. A reward of \$500 is offered for the recovery of the money. The money belonged to Mr. Borden, of the Fall River Print Works.

EDITING AND NEWSPAPERS .- We never could see the vir-EDITING AND NEWSPAPERS.—We never could see the virtue of the boast which is so often made by papers and magazines that so large a portion of their pages is original. Such originality is too often obtained at the expense of worth. The best exchanges of our acquaintance are by no means those which have the greatest amount of "original" matter. There is more editorial tact and talent required to make proper and practical selections than is put in requisition by the production of vaunting original writers, who seem to regard originality as the only requisites for a good periodical. A good newspaper is always dependant upon other resources than its own, and the boast of a periodical that it is entirely original is too often like the boast of a library if it should claim to have been the production of only one author.—Lynn News.